



R 98 P 4137 P

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hans-Jürgen Hacke et al.
RCE of Applic. : 09/761,594 filed January 16, 2001
RCE Filed : April 11, 2003
Title : Semiconductor Device in Chip Format and
Method for Producing It
Examiner : John T. Haran
Group Art Unit : 1733

#18/162E
4/24/03

P R E L I M I N A R Y R E S P O N S E

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

S i r :

Responsive to the *Advisory Office* action dated January 28, 2003, and in view of the attached *Request for Continued Examination* (RCE), the following remarks are made.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-5 and 11-24 are solicited.

Claims 1-5 and 11-24 remain in the application.

In item 6 on page 4 of the Office action dated September 11, 2002, claims 1-5, 13-17, and 19-24 have been rejected as being

obvious over *Akagawa et al.* (EP 0 734 059) in view of *Farnworth et al.* (US 6,639,600) and *IBM Technical Bulletin*, "Solder Plated Resin Ball", Vol. 38, pages 463-464 (May 1995), under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Enclosed herewith is a *Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131*. The declaration states and declares that "[t]he invention of the above-identified application was 'reduced to practice' at least as early as July 6, 1998, predating the prior art date of *Farnworth et al.*.. It is therefore believed that *Farnworth et al.* is not available as prior art against the invention of the instant application. Consequently, the prior rejection in item 6 on page 4 of the Office action dated September 11, 2002, applying *Farnworth et al.* is moot.

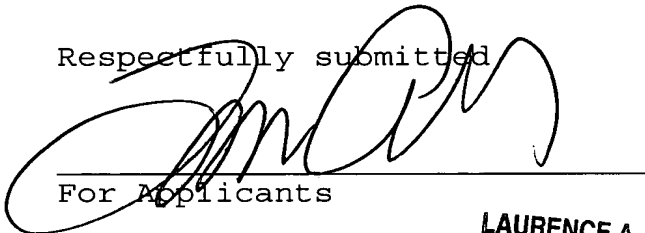
Enclosed as corroborating evidence is the Invention Declaration/Disclosure (*Erfindungsmeldung*) dated January 26, 1998, evidencing that the invention of the instant application was "reduced to practice" at least as early July 6, 1998.

In the event the Examiner should find any deficiencies in the declarations or in the Invention Declaration/Disclosure (*Erfindungsmeldung*), the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Counsel.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-5 and 11-24 are solicited.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted



For Applicants

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April 11, 2003

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